

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- ✓ 1. A computer-implemented method for enabling a host to facilitate a transaction between a first party and a second party, comprising:
- receiving a communication from said first party;
- 5        .querying a database based on said communication, and obtaining a result that indicates said second party for engagement in said transaction;
- sending a communication to said second party inviting said second party to correspond with said first party;
- receiving a correspondence from said second party; and
- 10        presenting to said first party said correspondence from said second party.
- ✓ 2. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, further comprising:
- storing to a memory a correspondence from said first party;
- storing to said memory said correspondence from said second party; and
- 15        providing to said first party and said second party access to said memory to review both of said correspondence from said first party and said correspondence from said second party.
- ✓ 3. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, further comprising
- 20        presenting to said first party an offer for said second party to provide a product or service to said first party.
- ✓ 4. The computer-implemented method of claim 3, further comprising:
- receiving from said first party, a communication indicating a desire of said first
- 25        party to receive said product or service; and
- sending an order to said second party for said second party to provide said product or service to said first party.
- ✓ 5. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, further comprising soliciting
- 30        a comment from said first party regarding said first party's level of satisfaction with said correspondence from said second party.

6. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, further comprising determining an amount of compensation due to said host for facilitating said transaction.

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7. The computer-implemented method of claim 1,  
wherein said correspondence from said second party is in a first language; and  
wherein said method further comprises translating said correspondence from said first language into a second language.

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8. A computer-implemented method for enabling a host to facilitate a transaction between a first party and a second party, comprising:  
receiving a query from said first party;  
searching a database based on said query for correspondents for engagement in  
said transaction;  
sending to said first party a list of said correspondents that includes said second party;  
receiving from said first party an indication that said first party desires to correspond with said second party;  
receiving a correspondence from said first party;  
presenting to said second party said correspondence from said first party;  
receiving a correspondence from said second party; and  
presenting to said first party said correspondence from said second party.

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9. The computer-implemented method of claim 8, further comprising:  
storing to a memory said correspondence from said first party;  
storing to said memory said correspondence from said second party; and  
providing to said first party and said second party access to said memory to review both of said correspondence from said first party and said correspondence  
from said second party.

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✓ 10. The computer-implemented method of claim 8 further comprising presenting to said first party an offer for said second party to provide a product or service to said first party.

5     ✓ 11. The computer-implemented method of claim 10 further comprising:  
receiving from said first party a communication indicating a desire of said first party to receive said product or service; and  
sending an order to said second party for said second party to provide said product or service to said first party.

10     ✓ 12. The computer-implemented method of claim 8 further comprising determining an amount of compensation due to said host for facilitating said transaction.

15     ✓ 13. The computer-implemented method of claim 8  
wherein said correspondence from said first party is in a first language and said correspondence from said second party is in a second language, and  
wherein said method further comprises at least one of (a) translating said  
correspondence from said first party from said first language into said second  
20 language, or (b) translating said correspondence from said second party from said second language into said first language.

✓ 14. A storage media containing instructions for controlling a processor to perform a method for enabling a host to facilitate a transaction between a first party  
25 and a second party, said storage media comprising instructions for controlling said processor to execute the steps of:  
receiving a communication from said first party;  
querying a database based on said communication and obtaining a result that indicates said second party for engagement in said transaction;  
30 sending a communication to said second party inviting said second party to correspond with said first party;

receiving a correspondence from said second party; and  
presenting to said first party said correspondence from said second party.

5     ✓ 15. The storage media of claim 14 further comprising instructions for  
controlling said processor to execute the steps of:  
        storing to a memory a correspondence from said first party;  
        storing to said memory said correspondence from said second party; and  
        providing to said first party and said second party access to said memory to  
review both said correspondence from said first party and said correspondence from  
10    said second party.

15    ✓ 16. The storage media of claim 14 further comprising instructions for  
controlling said processor to execute the step of presenting to said first party an offer  
for said second party to provide a product or service to said first party.

20    ✓ 17. The storage media of claim 16, further comprising instructions for  
controlling said processor to execute the steps of:  
        receiving from said first party a communication indicating a desire of said first  
party to receive said product or service; and  
        sending an order to said second party for said second party to provide said  
product or service to said first party.

25    ✓ 18. The storage media of claim 14, further comprising instructions for  
controlling said processor to execute the step of soliciting a comment from said first  
party regarding said first party's level of satisfaction with correspondence from said  
second party.

30    ✓ 19. The storage media of claim 14, further comprising instructions for  
controlling said processor to execute the step of determining an amount of  
compensation due to said host for facilitating said transaction.

20. The storage media of claim 14,  
wherein said correspondence from said second party is in a first language, and  
wherein said storage media further comprises instructions for controlling said  
processor to execute the step of translating said correspondence from said first  
5 language into a second language.

21. A storage media containing instructions for controlling a processor to  
perform a method for enabling a host to facilitate a transaction between a first party  
and a second party, said storage media comprising instructions for controlling said  
10 processor to execute the steps of:

receiving a query from said first party;  
searching a database, based on said query, for correspondents for engagement  
in said transaction;  
15 sending to said first party a list of said correspondents that includes said second  
party;  
receiving from said first party an indication that said first party desires to  
correspond with said second party;  
receiving a correspondence from said first party;  
presenting to said second party said correspondence from said first party;  
20 receiving a correspondence from said second party; and  
presenting to said first party said correspondence from said second party.

22. The storage media of claim 21, further comprising instructions for  
controlling said processor to execute the steps of:

25 storing to a memory said correspondence from said first party;  
storing to said memory said correspondence from said second party; and  
providing to said first party and said second party access to said memory to  
review both said correspondence from said first party and said correspondence from  
said second party.

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23. The storage media of claim 21 further comprising instructions for controlling said processor to execute the step of presenting to said first party an offer for said second party to provide a product or service to said first party.

5 24. The storage media of claim 23, further comprising instructions for controlling said processor to execute the steps of:

receiving from said first party a communication indicating a desire of said first party to receive said product or service; and

10 sending an order to said second party for said second party to provide said product or service to said first party.

25. The storage media of claim 21 further comprising instructions for controlling said processor to execute the step of determining an amount of compensation due to said host for facilitating said transaction.

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26. The storage media of claim 21,

wherein said correspondence from said first party is in a first language and said correspondence from said second party is in a second language, and

20 wherein said storage media further comprises instructions for controlling said processor to execute at least one of the steps of (a) translating said correspondence from said first party from said first language into said second language, or (b) translating said correspondence from said second party from said second language into said first language.

25 27. A computer system for enabling a host to facilitate a transaction between a first party and a second party, comprising:

a module for receiving a communication from said first party;

a module for querying a database based on said communication and obtaining a result that indicates said second party for engagement in said transaction;

30 a module for sending a communication to said second party inviting said second party to correspond with said first party;

a module for receiving a correspondence from said second party; and  
a module for presenting to said first party said correspondence from said  
second party.

5           28. A computer system for enabling a host to facilitate a transaction between a  
first party and a second party, comprising:

a module for receiving a query from said first party;

a module for searching a database, based on said query, for correspondents for  
engagement in said transaction;

10           a module for sending to said first party a list of said correspondents that  
includes said second party;

a module for receiving from said first party an indication that said first party  
desires to correspond with said second party;

a module for receiving a correspondence from said first party;

15           a module for presenting to said second party said correspondence from said  
first party;

a module for receiving a correspondence from said second party; and

a module for presenting to said first party said correspondence from said  
second party.